

our prostrate and bleeding country. We may not be able to do much toward alleviating the suffering and misery of our people, but we can at least take our share of them and their hardships, and a general distribution of it among us all. To the accomplishment of these objects the highest enthusiasm is required.

It will require all your earnest energy, all your strength, all your endurance to help us to our people or vitality to our State. We can expect nothing from the government of the United States. The party may be in power. The Convention at Philadelphia were the South, burying the past, were the South, re-establishing liberty, equality, fraternity—has declared the platform upon which the Conservatives propose to enter the next contest. The platform of principles which compose the platform of the South announced that the brave soldiers and sailors who suppressed the rebellion are entitled to the thanks of the nation; that the debt incurred by that horrible crime is to be sacred, and that the Confederate debts are to be paid in full by those who forged our fetters; but the soldiers of the South were seen empty sleeves on crutches, such as had never been seen before, nor could be brought up to match the veterans. No funds were left over by a paternal government soothed at the expense of their widows and orphans. The country and government for which they fought, like their hopes, are dead, and they lie buried on the cold shrubs of their native land.

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RECONSTRUCTION—NORTH CAROLINA.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

The latest returns from the North Carolina election led us to believe that the proposed Constitution had been adopted by the people of that State. They appeared to have followed the advice of ex-Chief Justice Rufin, who urged them to repudiate the Constitution "illegally forced upon them by the President." He said it would be the case, and it will be remembered that the Convention provided for in the President's proclamation of May, 1865, drew up and placed this Constitution before the people for ratification.

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before last Mr. Johnson virtually decided that the reconstruction of the Lower South for a second time was at hand, and an unanswerable combination of power, and he accordingly telegraphed to Attorney-General Heron to use the military to sustain the Courts in overruling and suppressing it. What he did, North Carolina will be in the hands of Reconstruction, and will be, inasmuch as the people have repudiated his scheme of reconstruction, by refusing to accept of the new Constitution, telegraph to the officers of the Convention to come together for a third time, and have some document which will satisfy and accede.

Assuming, as did the President, that North Carolina had never gone out of the Union, but was able through a conventional body to ratify the Constitution. Assuming, also, that the people, there is no manhood and courage in Judge Rufin, opposition to what he styles the "despotic usurpation" and "arbitrary assumption" of Mr. Johnson. The body which framed this Constitution he affirms, was selected by him, and he had no power to change the one in existence or devise a new one, because the delegates were not the choice of the people, and the mode adopted for providing a new Constitution did not conform to the provisions of the Constitution.

This old Constitution expressly stipulates that when the people wish to change it, or substitute a new one in its place, they must do so through a convention of delegates chosen by themselves; such changes being always presented to the Legislature, and of course being passed by the Legislature.

Instead of a course being pursued the delegates were simply the agents of the "President or his satrap," who in a proclamation specified just whom he saw fit as voters for these delegates.

We thus see that the whole scheme of evil which has caused the following of a policy which regards the late insurrectionary States as in the Union for one purpose, and out of it for another.

You are surprised that Judge Rufin after being assured by the President that he had never gone out of the Union, should now be a factor for State rights in the observance of constitutional forms.

North Carolina having set the ball rolling, we may expect to see it kept revolving through the other insurrectionary States. Article second of the Constitution of South Carolina, ratified in 1790, says: "No part of this Constitution shall be altered unless a bill to alter the same shall have been read three times in each house of Representatives and three times in the Senate, and agreed to by two-thirds of both branches of the whole representatives. Neither shall any alteration take place until the bill so agreed to be published three months previous to a new election for members of the House of Representatives and three times in the Senate, and agreed to by two-thirds of each house respectively; and when any such bill shall be passed in the manner aforesaid the same shall be null and void."

The Constitution of Georgia, ratified in 1798, decrees: "No part of this Constitution shall be altered unless a bill for that purpose, specifying the alterations to be made, shall have been introduced three times in the House of Representatives and three times in the Senate, and agreed to by two-thirds of each house respectively; and when any such bill shall be passed in the manner aforesaid the same shall be null and void."

The Constitution of Tennessee, ratified in 1796, says: "The General Assembly on application of a majority of the members of both Houses thereof, or when, in its opinion, the interest of the Commonwealth may require."

It appears that in accordance with the President's own plan of reconstruction, which ignores the theory of State secession, the "reconstructed States" can at any time they deem best, pronounce their present Constitution null and void, and the same will be in effect, and every day's delay only adds to the difficulties surrounding him.

True, we find that there is little or no prospect of his plan, that is, the Constitutional Amendment—being adopted by the requisite two-thirds number of States. The result of the election of Mr. Johnson, and the fact that State cannot for years to come be relied upon to ratify the Amendment. There is a "hitch" in the Tennessee ratification, while Arkansas cannot elect Union delegates to the Southern Union Convention, and the same may be said of Mississippi, and this, through her Legislature. There is, then, as said before, no hope of the Congressional plan being adopted for long years to come.

Such being the case, the President at once shrewdly overboard his own impulsive scheme and adopt the territorial plan, and Congress will at once drop its scheme and quickly and gladly make co-operative with him. In this way, and in this way only, can the problem of reconstruction be finally and permanently solved.

STEPHEN S. FOSTER AT FLORENCE.

From the Newbern Free Press, Sept. 11.

Mr. Stephen S. Foster, octogenarian of the platform of the Free-in-union Society last Sunday, and made as he was, a sensation, there being no lukewarmness about him. He wielded a battle-axe and sledge-hammer when he was young, and he who was a master of rows around the Sword of the South. In his terrible words, he who deems wrong he spares not friend nor foe; but those who hear him through the medium of the press, will see that the trumpet which seemed to sound the death-knell to the faithful wounds of a friend in the Sunday-school, which Mr. Foster attended in the forenoon, he spoke of happiness, which he all agreed in desiring, and desired it was to be obtained by means to men's welfare.

In the course of his remarks, he said: "The religious facilities might be brought into such an exact condition, completely to control or muzzle the other facilities, that the people would be compelled to pain. Martyrs in this exalted state, the blacks and loyal whites in common are under rebel-Johnsonism, and the slaves of a truly frightful character. Great was the sin of omission on the part of Congress, but greater still was its sin of commission."

It is from that the negro is suffering most dreadfully to-day. Thus by the delay have they gained strength to dictate through their leaders and legislators.

We are not unmindful of the attitude of President Johnson at that time. The broadest separation has taken place, and the advantage of time gained is with him. What was done by stealth under Buchanan to give arms to the rebels and strengthen their cause, President Johnson, while Republicans were hesitating and presenting disgraceful makeshifts, was doing boldly before the eyes of the people, until to-day we are assured the rebels are better armed and equipped for war than ever before. Thus by the delay have they gained strength to dictate through their leaders and legislators.

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In the evening Mr. Foster took up the subject of national affairs, showing the dangers of compromise, and pointing out the duties of the party, at the opening of war, to secure both protection and citizenship at the hands of those whom

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Senator Sumner (says the Springfield Republican) is away to represent his state in the trial of Representative Hooper, of Boston, a well-known and accomplished lady.

Miss Anna E. Dickinson has been put in march by Mrs. Brackett. The Boston Transcript says:

"Brackett's bust of Miss Dickinson, now on exhibition at his studio, No. 24 Tremont Row, is a remarkable fellow-feeling between Bennett and Mr. Beecher. Both are suspected of being healthy sickly in view of the present tendency of public opinion, of their personal conduct, and the like.

Pierce Butler, Esq., of Philadelphia, is personally testing the difference between slave and free labor on his rice plantations in Georgia. Of more than three hundred colored persons, once slaves, all but a few have returned and accepted the wages he offers them. The contract between Mr. Butler and the freed people, made with their consent and the approval of the Freedmen's Bureau, has been formally dissolved, and the freed slaves have been let go.

Mr. Butler's friends are awaiting the results of his experiment with great interest.

Representative Hooper, of North Carolina, has been a speaker at the annual meeting of the Freedmen's Bureau, held at the Tremont Hotel, Boston, on the 2d of October.

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PERSONAL.

Loretta Moit spoke in Albany, N. Y., in the Friends' Meeting-House, to a good audience, on the evening of the 9th inst. She is now on a visit to Nanuet.

Boston, Sept. 2.

The nation's prospects seem to be getting worse, while those of the antislavery cause are getting better. The new census dropped from the figures of political parties, and the failure of the Whigs to gain a majority in the House of Representatives, and the failure of the Democrats to gain a majority in the Senate, are the chief causes of the present decline in the antislavery cause.

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